

Approved - SWAC Special Meeting Minutes August 17, 2011

In attendance: Phil Harris and Rick Pack for the Department, SWAC Chair Dan Locke and Vice Chair Peter Blood.

SWAC members: Ellis Burrus, Rolan Clark, Karin Tome, Rich Terselic, Dave Heller, Brian Sclar, Jim Racheff

Guests: Kevin Demosky, Steve Cassis

The meeting began at 6:30 PM. The minutes of the regular July meeting were not considered.

The purpose of this special meeting was to consider the drafts of chapters 3 & 4 of the draft revised Solid Waste Management Plan. Phil also noted that the draft Chapter 5 of the plan was available and would be discussed this evening if time permitted. While the drafts of Chapters 3 & 4 had been circulated to and discussed previously by the committee Chapter 5 had not similarly been shared.

Rich moved that SWAC vote approval of chapter 3 with the freedom granted to staff to make non-substantive editorial changes before sending the document on to the county planning office. The motion passed with Karin against and Ellis abstaining. Rich provided Phil a compact disc with his proposed non-substantive editorial suggestions for Chapter 3.

During the discussion of Chapter 3 that followed, the need for qualification of two Table 3-1 items related to historical and projected amounts of solid waste trash generation was approved. Ellis proposed expansion to three tables but this was not accepted. What was agreed was addition of a qualifying foot note describing the methodology on which the projected increased amount was based.

Rich made a similar motion to that approved for chapter 3 applying to Chapter 4-which passed. Karin again voted against. The review of Chapter 4 produced no proposals for noteworthy changes.

Phil introduced the draft of Chapter 5 which, as noted earlier, had not previously been shared with the committee. During the course of the related discussion it was noted that beyond a recitation of historical information, the only important changes to the chapter were the addition of sections on the school recycling program and CFL light disposal.

A subject that prompted special discussion involved references in the plan chapters to the food composting program approved by the Board of Commissioners (BOCC). Phil reassured the committee that the statements in the draft plan fully conformed to the language provided by the County Sustainability Committee and the BOCC.

Based on his conclusion that Chapter 5 did not contain anything that should prompt the raising of substantive points among committee members, Rich proposed a motion similar to those approved for Chapters 3 & 4, providing for SWAC approval of Chapter 5. Rich's motion failed but was amended by Ellis with the addition of the qualification that-if no substantive points were communicated to Phil by close of business Monday August 22-the chapter would be considered approved with the same allowance for non-substantive editorial revisions by staff. The motion passed. Phil will advise the committee if substantive comments are received. If not, there will be no need for the otherwise agreed second special meeting set for Wednesday August 24.

The county-approved submission of the final plan is due at the Maryland Department of the Environment by October 1. Once staff completes the draft it will go to the planning group and then to the BOCC for approval.

Guest Comments

Steve complimented the committee on its work on the plan and questioned whether the contents of the plan accurately conformed to the approvals of the food waste composting program approved by the BOCC? Phil and Kevin reassured him that it did conform.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.